



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VA 22230

Title: Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS) Program Directors
Computer and Information Science and Engineering Directorate (CISE)
Employment Opportunities--Dear Colleague Letter

Date: December 13, 2004

Dear Colleague:

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering, Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS) announces a nationwide search to fill three Program Director positions. For the first position applicants are being sought with expertise in computer vision; for the second position with expertise in data management and security; and for the third position with expertise in human language and communication.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in computer science, computer engineering, communication, information science and computational science or allied disciplines, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. In addition, technical expertise in one of the following areas is essential: computer vision, data management and security, or human language and communication depending on which position is being sought. Also desirable is knowledge of the computing community broadly, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher.

All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs, as well as in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations. The goal of the Division of Information and Intelligent Systems is to advance research and education on systems for acquiring, representing, understanding, organizing, accessing and drawing inferences from data, information, and knowledge across the spectrum of modalities (e.g., vision, speech, text) and contexts (e.g., single user or task environments, the world wide web). It supports research projects addressing the entire lifecycle of information: from capture of data in raw form (e.g., unstructured text, real time human

speech, image streams from autonomous robots) to structuring and storing of information (e.g., in data bases, ontologies, large test corpora) and to its use as knowledge in support of intelligent systems (e.g., autonomous agents, unmanned exploratory vehicles, information retrieval engines, decision-support assistants) and other socio-technical systems (e.g., wearable computing, knowledge environments, context-aware computing). Periodic assignments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency programs may be made. We are particularly interested in attracting women and underrepresented minority candidates to these positions.

The Program Director positions recruited under the announcement will be filled under the following appointment option:

- **Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment.** Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators" on the NSF website at www.nsf.gov/jobs. Additional information about IIS and its programs can be found at: <http://www.cise.nsf.gov/div/index.cfm?div=iis>.

Applications (resumes) and questions concerning these positions should be directed to:

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Applicants should indicate which of the three positions (computer vision, data management and security, or human language and communication) they are applying for in their application package. Resumes will be accepted until the positions are filled.

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